



Recommendation for Action

File #: 21-1480, **Agenda Item #:** 30.

3/25/2021

Posting Language

Ratify a contract with BCL of Texas to provide outreach support, application assistance, and one-on-one business coaching through the Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant program to legacy businesses in Austin in need of relief as a result of COVID-19 pandemic in amount not to exceed \$79,200.00, with an option to amend and extend the term and fee if additional grant funds become available.

Lead Department

Economic Development Department.

Fiscal Note

There is no fiscal impact.

Prior Council Action

October 1, 2020 - Council approved [Ordinance No. 20201001-052](https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=353431) amending certain Fiscal Year 2020-2021 department budgets to fund the Save Austin's Vital Economic Sectors (SAVES) Fund to support COVID-19 emergency relief as follows: the Financial Services Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$6,000,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Building Services Department Capital Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$500,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; the Pay for Success Reserve Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$4,800,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and the Austin Transportation Department Mobility Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out and appropriate \$3,700,000 to the General Fund Emergency Reserve Fund; and declaring an emergency.

December 3, 2020 - Council approval [Resolution No. 20201203-012](https://www.austintexas.gov/edims/document.cfm?id=352041) to establish enhanced program guidelines for the Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant, a \$5,000,000 program to help support Austin-based live music venues impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

For More Information

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Additional Backup Information

In response to financial hardships caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, Council established the Austin Legacy Business Relief Grant program to help local legacy businesses through the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the City Council's direction, the City of Austin Economic Development Department (EDD) sought a third-party non-profit to administer these relief programs. EDD evaluated third parties based on their experience providing direct program delivery and administration assistance, including managing local, state, federal or private funding to assist in grant administration.

EDD selected BCL of Texas ("the Contractor") to support implementation of this program with outreach to

eligible businesses, assistance to program applicants, and one-on-one business coaching for all program participants. The Contractor is expected to meet with EDD project management representatives regularly, as identified in the scope of work and deliverables. The Contractor will administer the Technical Assistance Evaluation required of all program participants and guide participants toward the completion of a Business Continuity Strategy to help ensure economic survival and post-pandemic business growth for program participants.

Economic Opportunity and Affordability.